

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PHNOM 02976 171230Z

11

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 /053 W

----- 071765

O 171201Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9392

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 2976

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, CB

SUBJ: FEBRUARY 16 AND 17, THE 47TH AND 48TH DAYS OF THE OFFENSIVE

REF: PHNOM PENH 2907

1. SUMMARY. PEAM REANG ISLAND ON THE LOWER MEKONG APPARENTLY FELL TO THE KC. THE 7TH DIVISION ABANDONED ITS COMMAND POST AT TRAPEANG PREY IN A FAILURE OF MORALE AND COMMAND. THE KC HAVE TAKEN NEARLY ALL OF MAUNG RUSSEI SOUTH OF BATTAMBANG ON ROUTE 5 GAINING A LARGE AMOUNT OF RICE PADDY. KAMPOT DEFENDERS KILLED OVER 40 KC AND SEIZED A NUMBER OF WEAPONS. ROCKET ACTIVITY PICKED UP AT POCHENTONG AND IN PHNOM PENH WITH OVER A SCORE INJURED. END SUMMARY.

2. SOMETIME DURING THE EARLY MORNING OF FEBRUARY 17, THE KC REDUCED FANK'S TWO-BATTALION GARRISON AT PEAM REAN ISLAND ON THE LOWER MEKONG. GUNSHIP CREWS REPORT INFLECTING HEAVY KC CASUALTIES. REPORTS OF FANK SURVIVORS HAVE NOT COME IN YET BUT FRIENDLY LOSSES ARE PROBABLY HEAVY. THE LOSS OF THIS IMPORTANT GARRISON MAKES FANK'S EVENTUAL EFFORTS TO CLEAR THE LOWER MEKONG CONSIDERABLY TOUGHER.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PHNOM 02976 171230Z

3. THE DEFENDERS OF THE 7TH DIVISION COMMAND POST AT TRAPEANG PREY NORTHWEST OF PHNOM PENH OFF ROUTE 5 ABANDONED THEIR POSITION FEBRUARY 16. THE LOSS, ALTHOUGH NOT SIGNIFICANT IN TERMS OF TERRAIN, IS A FAILURE OF COMMAND AND INDICATES THE POOR MORALE OF THE BADLY-MAULED SEVENTH.

4. AFTER A PERIOD OF SUCCESSFUL ATTACKS AGAINST SMALL VILLAGES AROUND MAUNG RUSSEI ON ROUTE 5 SOUTH OF BATTAMBANG, THE KC ATTACKED THE TOWN AND AT LAST REPORT HAD GAINED CONTROL OF ALL EXCEPT FOR A FRIENDLY STRONG POINT AT A SCHOOL AND A FEW OTHER ISOLATED POCKETS. MR-III HEADQUARTERS HAD PLANNED A RELIEF OPERATION FOR TODAY, FEBRUARY 17. BESIDES LYING ASTRIDE KEY ROUTE 5, MAUNG RUSSEI IS AN AGRICULTURAL CENTER WHICH HAS REPORTEDLY STORED A LARGE AMOUNT OF PADDY FROM THIS YEAR'S RICE HARVEST.

5. FANK DEFENDERS AT KAMPOT MET THE ENEMY ON THE TOWN'S PERIMETER AND KILLED 42 WHILE LOSING 23 FRIENDLY CASUALTIES. FANK SEIZED A NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL AND CREW-SERVED WEAPONS.

6. ROCKET ACTIVITY STEPPED UP. POCHENTONG TOOK 16 ROUNDS OVER THE TWO DAYS WITH 21 PERSONS WOUNDED. TWO ROCKETS LANDED IN PHNOM PENH WOUNDING THREE AND ANOTHER HIT THE FORMER ESSO WAREHOUSE DESTROYING A QUANTITY OF LUBRICANTS.
DEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY OCCUPATION, COMBAT OPERATIONS, COMBAT CASUALTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PHNOM02976
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750057-0130
From: PHNOM PENH
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750237/aaaabheu.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: PHNOM PENH 2907
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FEBRUARY 16 AND 17, THE 47TH AND 48TH DAYS OF THE OFFENSIVE
TAGS: MOPS, CB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006